

April 2018

Letter from Indian Agent Mallet to Commissioner of Indians

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Enc

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Department of the Interior
Office of Indian Affairs
Washington March 12, 1877

E. Mallet Esq.

U.S. Indian Agent

Tulalip Agency Wash Terr.

Sir

In reply to your letter of the 20th ultimo, relative to "Miscellaneous Receipts" &c. I inclose herewith, copy of a decision of the Supreme Court, relative to cutting timber from Indian Reservations from which you will be able to determine what is lawful and what are unlawful cutting.

If your Indians are clearing the land, in good faith for agricultural purposes, they have the right to dispose of the surplus wood and timber and to receive the proceeds thereof. If such is not the case, the cutting is unlawful and should be stopped at once.

If the Indians are capable of making their own bargains, there is no objection to their so doing

and you are thereby relieved for accounting
for the same.

The arrangements already made by you,
between the Indians and the trader are approved
by this Office and you are authorized to make
such additional regulations as may be deemed
necessary for their benefit and protection.

Very respectfully
Signed J. L. Smith
Commissioner

Wash, M. 329.77